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Poetry: Richard Cory's Obituary

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RICHARD CORY'S OBITUARY

We read about the suicide
In the dim light of the gas lamp.
Eliza Crone's boy was late delivering the **Ledger**
(After delivering the ice for the families
On the east side,
He had gone to Miller's Pond
To gig the fat bull frogs).

A daguerreotype of Susan Hough
(Her smile was always all teeth and little truth)
Was found on the carpet
Near poor Mr. Cory's cold body.
(Have you ever seen that Persian rug
That his mother bought in Cairo?
I wonder if it was stained.)
And in his hand he clutched
A clipping from the Portland paper
About Susan's engagement to Reynolds Grant.
Saratoga will be fine for an early autumn honeymoon.

Robert Cowser, Ph.D.